the Bridge plank so urgent that I could not consent to take it—pray dispatch her with the plank time enough to get here by the last day of the Month if possible. the old Bridge is in such condition that people on the other side are afraid to bring their produce over it to market by which means the town suffers & besides I have reason to believe that advantage will be taken of my failure if it is not compleated by the appointed day—[2] Some of the Casks which contain Flaxseed I wish to have returned if it can be done with convenience as in making up Pork I shall want them—having no Barrels—I have not one empty Cask left—Of Flaxseed I have) no More—

Yours &c.
Tho. BLOUNT

I have committed to the care of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Knox a rifle for Maj<sup>r</sup>. Blount & I beg his pardon for not sending her 3 months ago—his Mare is in fine order & I am anxious to convey her to him (having myself no use for her) but cannot spare a hand of any sort to send with her—He shall have her by first opportunity—perhaps Col. Thomas whom I daily expect here will be in want of a Nag to ride down—if so I shall let him take her—

Т. В —

12 BU Pak Toole 10 Clements

Richard Dobbs Spaight220 to John Gray Blount

New Bern 19th, December 1790

Dear Sir,

As I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of quitting the Continent again this Winter and taking refuge in some of the West India Islands, I propose going to the Island of Ste. Cruiz [or St. Croix], it being perfectly neutral—the french are in too great disturbances—and the British in case of a Spanish war would not be agreeable to a Man in my condition—I understand that you trade a great deal to Ste. Cruiz, and of course have correspondents on that Island—you will oblige me much

<sup>220</sup> For sketch of Spaight see The John Gray Blount Papers, I, page 528n. 7.